QUESTION posed to ADC: the 2010 PEW Prison Count Report shows an increase in the Arizona prison population of 2.5% which doesn't seem to truck with the data on your ADC website which shows prison population holding steady, if anything.

ANSWER from ADC:

In CY 2009, ADC did experience a net increase in the inmate population. There is a slight deviation between our numbers and Pew. Pew counted the difference between January 1, 2010 and December 31, 2008. Our numbers match for January 1, 2010 (40,523), but Pew uses the BJS number of 39,589 (ours is 39,502). The difference is that BJS counts our out-of-state inmates and we do not. Thus, we show a 2.6% increase in that time period. The total net growth for CY 2009 (December 31, 2008 to December 31, 2009), according to our records, was 1,042 (average increase of 87 per month).

In CY 2010, the population growth rate declined significantly. The total net growth for CY 2010 (December 31, 2009 to December 31, 2010), according to our records, was negative 414 (average decrease of 35 per month).

We generally track our population numbers by fiscal year, so it is more likely you have heard our numbers described as an average monthly increase of 126 inmates in FY 2009 and an average monthly increase of 5 inmates in FY 2010.

Page 7 (of 93) of this PDF document includes tables with our population growth numbers both by Calendar Year and Fiscal Year. http://www.azcorrections.gov/BudgetHearings2012.pdf